6/14/2011

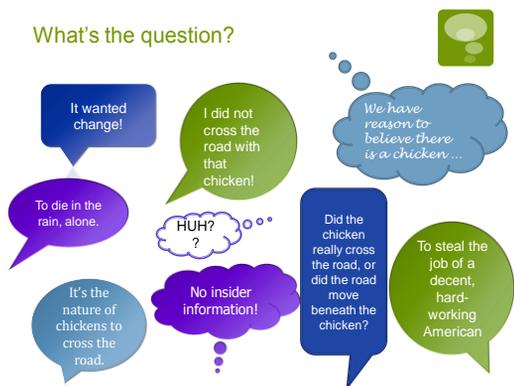**Systematically Addressing Answers That Matter**

A Presentation for the Florida Children and Youth Cabinet
June 15, 2011

The Policy Group

What's the question?

It wanted change!

I did not cross the road with that chicken!

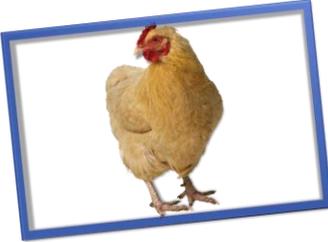*We have reason to believe there is a chicken …*

To die in the rain, alone.

HUH??

Did the chicken really cross the road, or did the road move beneath the chicken?

To steal the job of a decent, hard-working American

It's the nature of chickens to cross the road.

No insider information!

Which came first?

In Florida, the Children and Youth Cabinet
Then … how to join together to get across the road
Then … how to lay the eggs and figure out who could make the perfect omelet

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2008-2009

Cabinet Goals

Goal 1: Promote increased efficiency and improved service delivery by all governmental agencies that provide services for children, youth and their families

1a. Develop and implement a shared and cohesive vision for child and youth outcomes across state agencies, departments and programs

Goal 5: Build, allocate and align sufficient resources and functions to meet the goals set forth by the Children and Youth Cabinet.

5c: Identify gaps and resources required to meet the health, safety, educational and support needs of children and their families.

The State of Florida's Child Report

- Status of Florida's children concurrent with inception of Cabinet
- Outcomes accountability process
- Strategies that work to improve outcomes
- Recommendations for creating shared vision, improved outcomes and aligning resources

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Report recommendations adopted

	Done ✓ or In Progress ☞
Adopt an outcomes accountability process	✓
Identify and adopt a prioritized set of indicators to be used as a roadmap for improving the lives of Florida's children	✓
Discuss and adopt strategies for financing an agenda to improve outcomes for children and families aligning state expenditures for children to outcomes adopted by the Cabinet	☞
Determine performance measures that allow state agencies to articulate and monitor their participation *programmatically* in improving results on the prioritized indicators	☞
Develop and implement *cross-agency* action plans	☞
Determine where gaps and inconsistencies occur and develop ways to address	
Establish a process for ongoing monitoring and updating of progress	

What are the steps to outcomes accountability?

We started here – the easy part!

Desired outcomes align with Cabinet's vision

Every Florida child deserves:

to be healthy …

to be ready to learn and succeed …

a stable and nurturing family …
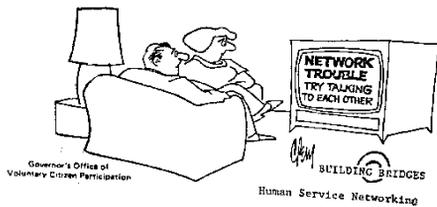
to live in safe and supportive communities.
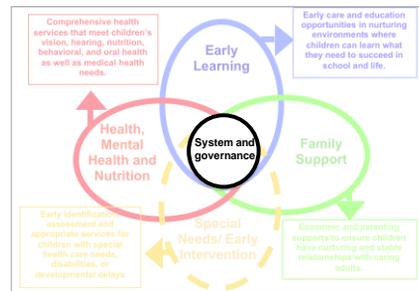

But how do we know if our work is paying off?

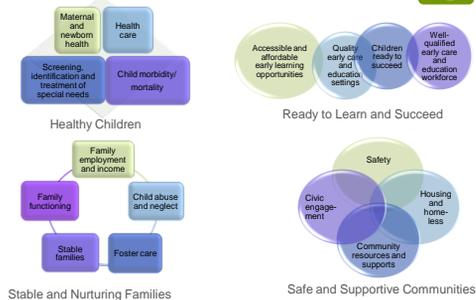We needed indicators to tell us, and a starting point!

That required some discussion!

The 30,000-foot view

Descending to a manageable altitude

Healthy Children

Ready to Learn and Succeed

Stable and Nurturing Families

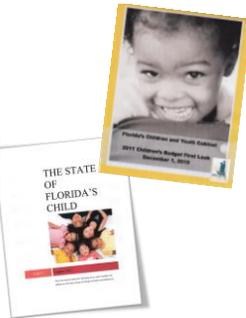Safe and Supportive Communities

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In for a landing: headline and focus indicators

- **EVERY FLORIDA CHILD IS HEALTHY**
  - Mothers beginning prenatal care in the first trimester
  - *Children with health insurance*
  - Children with a medical home
- **EVERY FLORIDA CHILD IS READY TO LEARN AND SUCCEED**
  - Births to women with fewer than 12 years of education
  - Children who are read to by their parents or relative caregivers
  - *Children whose kindergarten entry assessment scores show they are ready for school*
  - Early childhood staff with bachelor's degrees

- **EVERY FLORIDA CHILD LIVES IN A STABLE AND NURTURING FAMILY**
  - Children in poverty
  - *Children who are maltreated*
  - Teen births
- **EVERY FLORIDA CHILD LIVES IN A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY**
  - Domestic violence
  - *Homeless children*
  - Children in supportive neighborhoods

So now we have several chickens crossing the road?

- 4 cross-agency indicator work groups engaged in Turn the Curve exercises on the Cabinet's four focus indicators
- Two teams developed performance measures and plans
- Gay Lancaster, Juvenile Welfare Board CSC of Pinellas County and state agency budget staffers began development of a state children's budget linked to indicators
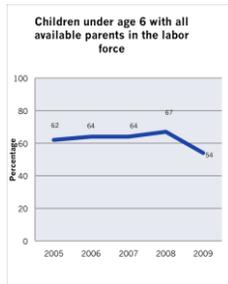- The Policy Group researched and prepared an update to The State of Florida's Child

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The State of Florida's Child Update 2011

Low birth weight babies	• 36th	• 38th
Infant mortality	• 29th	• 28th
Child deaths	• 27th	• 27th
Children 1 to 5 whose family members read to them less than 3 times a week	• 39th	• 28th
Children in poverty (100%)	• 25th	• 32nd
Children in single parent families	• 43rd	• 43rd
Children in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	• 22nd	• 30th
Median family (with child) income	• 34th	• 38th

Do the trend lines tell all?

- The number of Florida children in families with income *above* the poverty line is decreasing.
- The number of Florida children with all available parents in the labor force is decreasing.
- Florida median family income is decreasing.
- The number of Florida children in low-income households where housing costs exceed 30% of income is increasing.
- The number of homeless children in Florida is increasing.
- The number of children in poverty in Florida is increasing.

Children under age 6 with all available parents in the labor force

(chart: Percentage, values 62, 64, 64, 67, 54 for years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)

What's the question?

- We're headed in the same direction.
- We are working toward a shared vision.
- We know what outcomes we want.
- We are sharing information.
- YIPPEE !!!
- We are tracking trend lines to see if we are making a difference.
- We have begun linking indicators to budget.
- We know what works to turn the curves.
- We have some plans in place.

Thank you!

The Policy Group